

Inside this issue:



Avila takes a stand
page 2



Softball
page 6



Invisible disabilities
page 10

The Talon

Avila College 11901 Wornall Road, Kansas City, MO 64145 April 11, 2002 Vol. X Issue 7

Seniors to present final show

Sara Maley
Features Editor

The stress level around campus magnifies as graduation approaches. But with that stress comes a level of excitement for those about to end one phase of their lives, and begin another. For three graphic design students, the excitement and stress are in full effect as they prepare not only to walk across the stage, but open an art exhibit as well.

Kevin Parker, Angel Villegas and Merritt West have been preparing for the last four years for the opening of the Senior Graphic Design Show. It is a requirement for all graphic design majors to have an exhibition of their work in order to graduate.

Thornhill Gallery Director Lisa Ann Sugimoto said, "It is a part of professional practice. A lot of designers show their work in exhibitions, and we want to give our students a chance to experience the process. It also gives us a chance to show off how good our students are."

Friday, April 26 will mark the opening of the exhibit, which can be viewed from 6-9 p.m. in the Thornhill Art Gallery, located in lower Whitfield Center. Admission to the opening is free and it is open to the public. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be available to guests throughout the evening. Works will be on display through May 5.

Parker, Villegas and West will be showing works ranging from ceramics and pho-

tography to mixed media and drawings. Each entrant will also display works completed in the upper level graphics courses, including brochures, pamphlets, business cards and letterheads.

"The good thing about this show is that it gives other people a chance to see what I've been working on for the past few years here at Avila," Villegas said. "They all know that I go to Avila and major in graphic design, but they don't really know my art."

Parker agrees that this is a good opportunity for members of the Avila community to see what the art students are capable of designing, as well as gaining experience for the future. "This gives everyone a chance to see the products of the many long nights and weekends I've dedicated to my classes," Parker said. "It is exciting to get to go through the process of creating, perfecting and displaying my work at my school since I will be doing it someday when I am out in the real world."

Student attendance at the openings has been down recently, and Sugimoto feels that this is due to the misconception of the event as being overly formal. "It is perfectly acceptable for guests to come to the opening wearing jeans and a T-shirt. People don't really pay attention to what others are wearing. We are just glad they are there supporting their fellow students," Sugimoto said.



S. Maley

Senior Kevin Parker is getting ready to display his work at the Senior Graphic Design Show in Thornhill Art Gallery.

G. Richard Scott

The Talon staff wishes to dedicate this issue in memory of G. Richard Scott. Scott, who worked as a professor and administrator, died of liver cancer at the age of 60. Up until his death, Scott was the director of planned giving, a position he held since 1987. He persuaded donors to establish scholarships.

Scott began his career at Avila as a history professor in 1964. From there, he became vice president of academic affairs in 1970, overseeing the curriculum and teacher hirings.

A memorial service was held in the Whitfield Center.

A scholarship fund has been set up in Scott's honor. Donations can be sent to the G. Richard Scott Memorial at Avila College, Office of the President, 11901 Wornall Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64145.



Photo courtesy of Avila Community Relations

Thefts run rampant

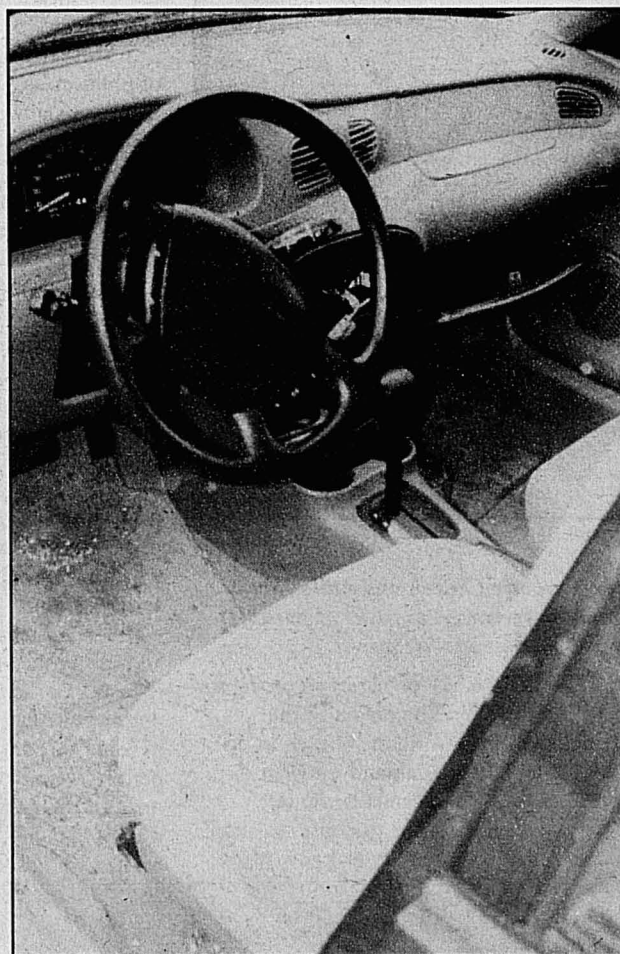
Karen Guber
Editor-In-Chief

A rash of robberies occurred in the area around Avila within the last month and a half. Three students have been the victims of car theft, resulting in shattered windows, hundreds of dollars in damages, and stolen compact disc players.

In two instances, a power saw was used to cut around the keyhole enabling the thief to enter the vehicles.

All three incidents took place in the Coach House Apartment complex, located half a mile from campus, while the vehicles were parked as close as 15 feet from the individuals' front doors.

The activity spread to campus when at least seven cars in the residence hall parking lot were found broken into on Monday, April 8.



K. Guber

Increased surveillance on campus

Jeremiah Miles
Staff Writer

As America heightens its defense against the forces of terrorism, Avila College will see its own line of defense increase next fall.

The residence hall population has grown nearly 33 percent since 1999. As the rooms begin to reach maximum occupancy, the potential for disaster grows and needs have to be met. Beginning in the fall semester of 2002, the number of resident assistants will be increased from six to eight.

"The total number will be raised to eight, not because the residents are troublesome, but because it will lighten the work load for each individual resident assistant," Resident Assistant Rebecca Smith said.

There have been multiple instances this school year where things have gotten out of hand, primarily vandalism. Although the current residence life staff kept a handle on the situations that arose, the addition of new resident assistants will make new opportunities for residents.

"Planning events for a coed floor will be a lot easier next fall. A male and a female resident assistant on the floor will allow us to meet gender specific needs of male and female residents. We can plan events for just males or just females without appearing discriminatory, and then we can have events for everyone too," Resident Assistant Tina Epstein said.

The floors that will have two resident assistants next year are still undecided. Floors one and four will continue to have

one resident assistant since both resident directors occupy them. Another factor that will play a role is the final floor assignments of residents, which is usually finalized during the summer.

"This year has definitely been an exciting one and the returning resident assistants as well as the new ones are really looking to getting started in planning for next fall. The changes are beneficial for everyone," Resident Assistant Kim Brim said.

Mock trial to compete at nationals

Jessica Giannola
Staff Writer

April 12-14 the mock trial team will travel to St. Petersburg, Fla. to compete at nationals. To qualify for the tournament, Avila's eight-member team had to do well at the regional competition, which was held at the Washburn School of Law in Topeka, Kan.

"I was somewhat nervous, but I was much more confident than they were," Mock Trial Coach Stephen Caliendo said.

Jessica Agnelly, prosecuting attorney for the mock trial team, was excited about the team's finish at regional competition. "The regional tournament was very exciting. We started off very strong and ended fairly strong. It was a much better experience than the last time I went to a regional two years ago," Agnelly said.

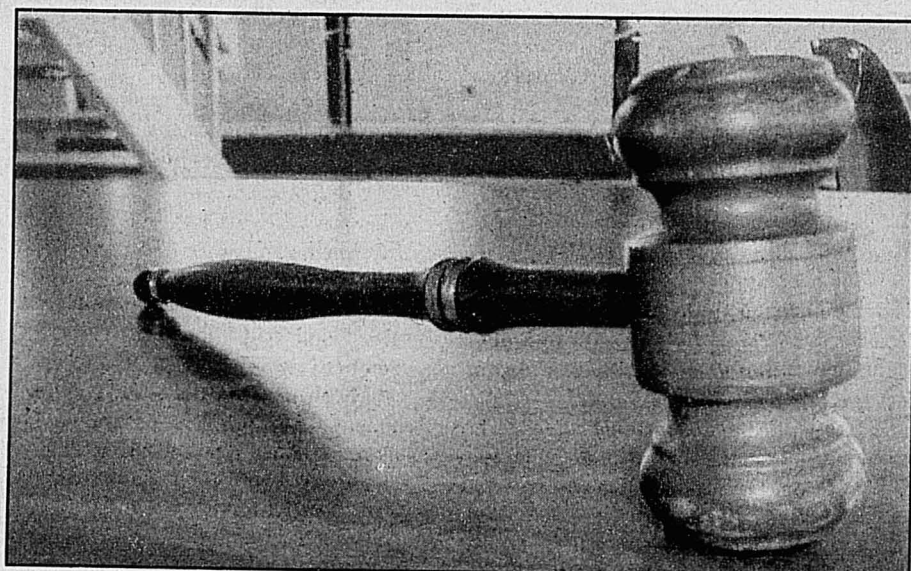
According to both Caliendo and

Agnelly, mock trial is very hard work, but also very rewarding.

Students practice together as a team every Tuesday for two and a half hours, and before competition meet and practice more often. They are responsible for learning the rules of evidence, rules of court, and proper court procedures.

"If you are thinking about mock trials, remember that it is like a sport. Practices are crucial and you have to put in a lot of work to succeed," Agnelly said. "But, like any sport, all of the effort and work pays off in the end."

This weekend will determine how much the hard work and time will pay off. "No matter how they do at nationals, they overachieved this year," Caliendo said.

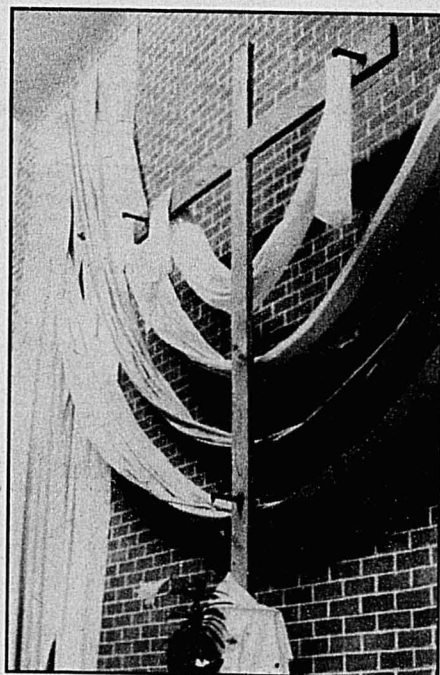


E. Barnes

After a successful round at the regional competition, the mock trial team advanced to nationals.

Avila takes a stand

Jimmy Vogel
Staff Writer



E. Barnes

The Catholic Church and Avila take a stand on recent accusations of possible sex abuse by Catholic priests.

The news is full of stories reporting the alleged sexual abuse by priests in the Catholic Church. With the church in distress, Avila has taken a stand on what is going on, and what should be done.

Avila College wants students, faculty, and the entire community to know where it stands on this subject and how some of the nuns feel this problem could be resolved.

Academic Dean Sister Marie Joan Harris said, "We feel that the Church is doing as well as it can with this terrible situation, but as a school we hope that students, as well as their parents, choose Avila for its educational reputation, and don't get scared away."

Sister Ruth Stuckel, associate professor of philosophy, wants people to know that there are many people affected by this, not just the victims. "It certainly is a sad thing for the victims," Stuckel said, "but as a church, we have to also pray for the priests stricken by this disease."

Pope John Paul II made an official statement saying that sexual abuse of any kind is one of the most horrible of sins. The statement has forced churches all over the United States to come clean about the priests they have protected, and report any kind of sexual misconduct by any religious figures to the authorities.

The focus on the sexual abuse comes from the requirement that the church makes on its clergy practicing celibacy, which means they refrain from any kind of sexual conduct.

The Vatican released a statement addressing the number of priests breaking the rules of their ordination. It stated that 3 percent of American priests are taking part in some sort of sexual activity and that 0.3 percent were actual pedophiles.

"In the past, the Church acted as if it was a big family," Stuckel said. "They wanted to fix the problem internally."

In the mid-1980s, when the issue of sexual abuse surfaced in the church, it was

thought that sexual predators could be cured. The Catholic Church would take the problems in their own hands and try to rehabilitate the accused priest and move him to a different church.

"That's how the scandal started," Stuckel said. "It was merely ignorance of a disease, not to make light of it. The Church did what they thought was right."

Many people think that the outcome of this will be that the Catholic Church

will allow priests to get married, or as Sister Ruth Stuckel feels, allow women to take a role as priest.

"A good idea would be to allow those who wish to be celibate to join religious communities like the Jesuits or the Sisters of St. Joseph, and allow diocesan priests to marry," Stuckel said. "That way more people would consider joining the priesthood, and the chances of scandal greatly diminish."

Spring Fling events

Friday, April 12

3-on-3 BASKETBALL • 1 p.m., Blasco Parking Lot

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL vs. EVANGEL • 3:30 p.m., Avila Softball Field

RESIDENCE LIFE APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday, April 13

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL vs. CULVER-STOCKTON • 2 p.m., Avila Softball Field

SPRING FORMAL

Dance to DJ "D-Rok," Free Food, Drinks & Fun!

8 p.m. - midnight, BTA Conference Center (12411 Wornall Rd.)

Sponsored by GAP

Sunday, April 14

MASS • 11 a.m., Foyle Chapel

STUDENT LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION CEREMONY

6 p.m., Whitfield Conference Center

One on one with Robin Williams

Jeremy Lillig
Staff Writer

I was fortunate enough to be able to interview Robin Williams. Here is the interview that I conducted with Mr. Williams via the telephone.

What are your memories of college?

Lots of memories of college playing soccer, Julliard studying with Chris Reeve.

College students should see *Death to Smoochy* because it's nasty gritty fun.

How is your tour going?

It is going great. It's been nice to be live again in front of people. All I've done is short stints recently so to be doing long live sets has been very interesting.

As a father what is your current take on children's TV?

I watched Mr. Rogers with them and it was a wonderful show. Children like that format where you talk to them, they think it is very interesting. On the other hand some are just pure fun.

The ones that just sell action figures aren't very interesting.

Rainbow Randolph in *Death to Smoochy* is the first of three dark roles. Why did you decide to do them?

I decided to do *Insomnia* because Chris Nolan is young and he knows what is going on. Dark roles are something that I have always wanted to try.

Danny Devito is a visual director, how does he handle your improv style?

He sets a few road cones in the scene, then he lets you try anything and he picks the best one.

What do you do for your children to introduce them to new ideas?

No electronics for one week at the first of every month. They experience something else. They go free with their imaginations.

Adam Resnik has done great writing. Was there a need to improvise?

You didn't need to improvise a great deal because his writing was so good. I threw in some stuff but the lines were so great. At the end I became like Dustin Hoffman in *Rain Man*, 12% improv definitely 12%.

Did this role feel liberating for you?

Yes, exploring that out of control behavior that I experienced physically in the '70s was great. I was playing someone who was just sliding into the door of Betty Ford.

What is a funny story that happened on the set?

Ed Norton pulled out the cookie and one 8-year-old said "What the f***?" They

didn't get it on film, but it was so bizarre.

How do you feel about Ed Norton's character?

He is coming from the dark side to play a nice role. Great actor and in this film he plays an innocent. He's really got the chops. **If you could live one life that wasn't your own whose would it be and why?**

Albert Einstein's. His impact and his writings were so great, but after they dropped the bomb what happened to him and what he created was so horrible and interesting that it showed his human side. **Randolph is quite offensive in front of children. Were you uncomfortable?**

I made sure that I talked to the parents first. The only word they were uncomfortable with was Dick. They were afraid one of the children's names might be Richard. They have their own sensibilities and they have their own context. This movie is not for children. It has language that is offensive. It has an R- rating for a reason.

Was *Good Will Hunting* or *Death to Smoochy* more challenging?

My character in *Good Will Hunting* was a mentor with problems of his own. He was more restrained than my character in *Death to Smoochy* who was just out of control. They were both great fun things to do. They each demanded the same amount of concentration.

Will *Mork* and *Mindy* make a comeback?

Oh God no, not even *Mork* and *Mindy* on ice. *Mindy* still looks the same but I'm 50 now so it would have to be called pork for *Mindy*. No, I couldn't do it again.

Will you continue doing serious movies?

I want to do both. People need a cathartic laugh. I like to have a double bill - I see the need for both. I look for all different types of movies.

What is one thing you hope the audience takes with them after seeing *Death to Smoochy*?

A big laugh. I want you to come away with many laughs. Do I want you to look at children's programming? No, this movie is a satire.

Smoochy shenanigans

Matt Schmidt
Staff Writer

Why were two students and a teacher from Avila dressed up as animals at the Kansas City Knights game? Why, it was to promote the movie *Death To Smoochy*, which opened nationwide March 29.

Jeremy Lillig, Justin Heany, and Stephen Caliendo promoted the movie at a recent Knights game. The reason they were dressed as animals was that they were portraying Smoochy's friends. Heany was dressed as a panda, Lillig was a raccoon, and Caliendo was an eagle.

The guys participated in T-shirt throws to the crowd and other activities throughout the game. Their big moment came at halftime when the three, plus a friend of Lillig's and the fox from 101 The Fox radio station, played a basketball game against five random fans.

"It was really hard to see through the heads we were wearing," Lillig said. "The head kept flopping all around and we couldn't get the eye holes to stay in one place."

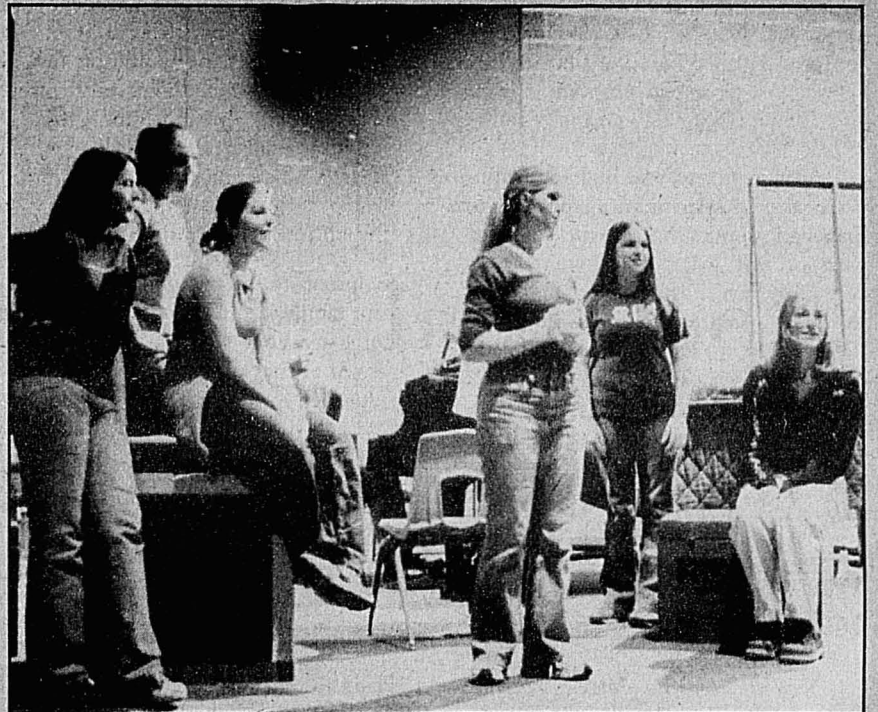
"My biggest problem was that it was extremely hot in the costumes," Heany said. They had a hard time and lost 6-0 against the fans.

Lillig and Heany were not alone in their costume troubles. "Running in an eagle costume is a lot harder than it looks," Caliendo said. "I was sweating to death and tired about 2 minutes in."

According to Lillig, every one had a really good time. "We had a blast. We got to play on a professional court and interact with the fans," Lillig said. "It is something that I will never forget."

"South Pacific"

Photos by E. Barnes



South Pacific, the spring musical, opens April 25 at 8 p.m.



Actors block movements at rehearsals for the musical.



Actors practice their lines for the performance of South Pacific.

Panic room equals panic attack

Jeremy Lillig
Staff Writer

Panic Room

★★1/2 (out of ★★★★★)

Rated: R

Starring: Jodie Foster, Jared Leto,
Forest Whitaker,
Dwight Yoakam

Steel, concrete, and high tech sophisticated security systems with separate phone lines and supplies to help with your survival, oh my!

The above cliché is the premise behind the latest installment from director David Fincher. Do not let the mocking tone fool you; this film is packed with plenty of

thriller-like action, suspense, and drama.

This film stars Jodie Foster as a single mother, recently divorced from her rich pharmaceutical tycoon husband who is forced to move into another house. After touring a classically decorated estate of a deceased inhabitant, Foster and her daughter decide to nest in the antique house. The house has one very modern ingredient that they discover upon their tour. It contains the latest in high tech home security: a foolproof room that can protect you and your family if you encounter the dreaded home invasion.

After they move into the new house it is invaded by a band of kooky criminals

dressed in classic black burglar attire. The band of criminals is comprised of Jared Leto, Forest Whitaker, and a masked Dwight Yoakam. Screenwriter David Koepp's dialogue is very clever in establishing his band of characters.

After the break-in, the suspense and drama set in. At this point I advise the audience to shift their posterior to the edge of their seat because that is where it will be for most of the remainder of the film.

This film is very good in establishing itself as a thriller, thanks to the wonderful direction of Fincher. His cold, detached feel illustrates well the intense nature of the subject. The very inventive, flowing cine-

matography takes you through walls, a coffee pot, chair, and a light bulb, making the audience feel they are there in the house. Foster does a good job in adding emotion to a character that could easily be generic and boring.

On the other hand, this film has one flaw. After the action is set into place, the film's outcome is easy to predict simply for the fact that it is inevitable. Without that in mind the film is fun, thrill seeking, good old-fashioned entertainment.

If you like the feeling of anxiety and your heart in your throat, see this film to fully grasp the barriers set by the *Panic Room*.

Film festivals invade Kansas City

Tyler Fox
Staff Writer

New York and Los Angeles generate more revenue from the film industry than any other cities in the United States. Though Kansas City is not on the same level as those larger cities, there are three upcoming film festivals that either feature local filmmakers' works or a mixture of local and national talent showing their newest films, and many times featuring members of the Avila community.

Halfway to Hollywood, the KC Filmmaker's Jubilee, and the KAN Film Festival are all held locally. Kansas City's collection of movie theaters are utilized to screen the films and sponsor special events that coincide with each festival.

The KC Jubilee takes place April 7-14 and will feature numerous films shown at varying venues such as The Cinemark Palace Theatre, The Dirt Gallery, Tivoli Theatres, the Science City Stage Theatre and the Kansas City Art Institute. The weeklong event will show short and feature length films by filmmakers from Kansas City and around the country. Dotty

Hamilton, head of the Communication Department, will have her new film *The Talk* shown on the last weekend of the festival.

"The film came about because of a class I did about women and media, and gender and sexuality. I thought it was a fascinating subject," Hamilton said.

Also premiering is Ben Meade's film, *Airplane Crazy*, about an elderly man who makes airplanes. Halfway to Hollywood is in its second year after being co-founded by Meade in 2001.

Meade, a professor in the communication department, will also premiere his new film *Vakvagany* at the KAN festival in June. After bringing legendary film artist Stan Brakhage to Halfway to Hollywood last

year, this year's festival features the 30th Anniversary tribute to Women Make Movies. In addition, the festival will feature a special performance by the Alloy Orchestra, who performed the score to Meade's new film, accompanying three silent films. Roger Ebert is quoted on the

Halfway to Hollywood website as saying, "The Alloy Orchestra are the best in the world at accompanying silent films."

Formed in 1992, the KAN mission is to "...to encourage, educate and support students and adults in the art of film-

making." They take submissions from students and professionals alike and require that they be a student or resident of Kansas or Missouri in order to compete. Filmmakers participate in primary, interme-

diate, secondary, college and open divisions each of which feature subcategories of drama/comedy, documentary, and original format. Avila students have placed or won in varying categories each year for the past three years.

"It's a great opportunity for students to show their work," Hamilton said, who serves as president of the board of KAN.

Finalists in the KAN include junior Erin Barnes, senior Megan Bridge, and junior Sara Maley.

For more information on the festivals, visit their websites at: www.kanfilmfest.org, www.halfwaytohollywood.org, and www.kcjubilee.org.

**"It's a great opportunity
for students to show
their work."**

Pop star to perform concert at Avila

Liz Horsley
A&E Editor

The fliers are up all around campus. On May 4, Mark Calderon will perform a festive concert at Avila. Calderon was one of the members of the group Color Me Badd.

The group is no longer together, but Calderon is still in the music business. "Right now I'm writing and producing songs for a new record label out of Cincinnati," Calderon said. "I'm also working with people who have shown a lot of interest in my music, but I haven't signed with anybody yet. I don't want to get locked down into different stuff."

For the Avila concert, he plans on playing a variety of songs, accompanied by professional flamenco dancers, including a couple of songs from Color Me Badd. He also plans on incorporating some of his newer songs.

"My music has a little bit of everything. I like to write feel good music with a '70s type sound, but still keeping an up-to-date hip-hop appeal. It's just simple and fun to listen to, the kind of music that makes me want to get up and dance," Calderon said.

Some students at Avila may wonder why Calderon chose to play a concert on campus. The connection has to do with art professor Lisa Ann Sugimoto.

Sugimoto is a friend of Calderon, and the two of them have talked about doing a concert here for a couple of years. They made the decision to carry it out this semester, the day before Cinco de Mayo, in celebration of Calderon's Mexican-American heritage.

"All of the proceeds from the concert go to the art and design department here at Avila," Sugimoto said.

The concert is on May 4 at 7 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at Goppert Theater. For more information, contact the art and design department at 816-501-3659.



AN
EVENING
WITH

MARK CALDERON

FORMERLY OF COLOR ME BADD
IN HIS DEBUT AS A SOLO ARTIST
PERFORMING NEW MUSIC

SATURDAY MAY 4, 2002 7:00 PM

GENERAL ADMISSION: \$40
BENEFITTING THE ART+DESIGN
DEPARTMENT

GOPPERT THEATRE
AVILA COLLEGE
11901 WORNALL ROAD
KANSAS CITY, MO 64145
816-501-3659

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

A journey to success

Shannon Degitz
Staff Writer

Jinny Chapman's journey to Avila began when she was on her way to Denver, Colo. She was playing in a softball tournament when former head coach Dennis Gault recruited her. "He is the reason I am here at Avila. He was not only a coach but he was like my father," Chapman said.

Coming from Helena, Mont. was quite a culture shock for Chapman. "I came from a town of about 10,000 people and hardly any diversity," she said. Adding that big city life is definitely more intriguing, she plans to stay in Kansas City after graduation. "There is so much more to do here. You can only watch so many movies," she said, laughing at the thought. "The weather is hotter and there is more moisture in the air, but I really enjoy Kansas City."

Coke, Mexican food, and chips and salsa top her list of favorite edible items. "There is nothing better than homemade Mexican food," Chapman said. "As for what I like to do in my spare time, I really just like hanging out with friends and around the house. I enjoy all types of music. I feel that I am pretty well-rounded in that area."

When she was five, Chapman started her softball career with tee ball. "My parents were the ones who got me started. Without their support, I could not have moved up," she said. Chapman played all through high school before ending up at Avila. She played first base on the softball team all four years.

Throughout her softball career she had to overcome obstacles such as knee injuries and the death of head coach Dennis Gault. "He was diagnosed with cancer the summer before my sophomore year. I found out when I returned. I had no time to pre-

pare. It was like WHAM! One minute he was here and the next minute he was gone. He finished coaching us during the fall but passed away in November," she said.

Softball has been a challenge for Chapman ever since. "He always made sure I had somewhere to go for the holidays. He would invite me over for dinner and was always looking out for me. I am a stronger person because of him," she said.

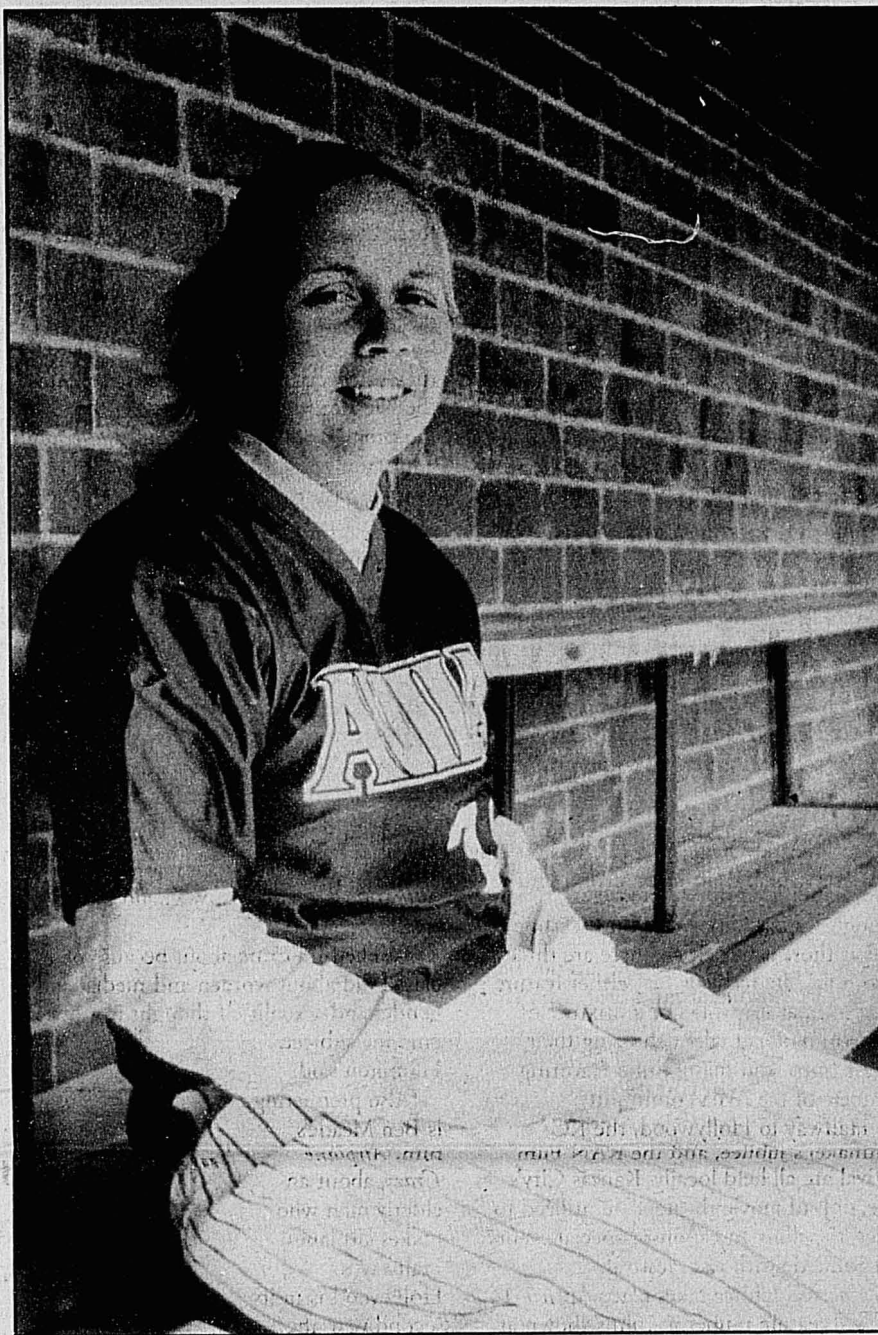
Chapman knows that he still looks out for her and the team. "My most memorable game was against St. Mary's College from Omaha. We were down seven runs and came back to win. Not only did we do that once, but we did the exact same thing in the second game. It was a very overcast, cloudy day. It looked as if it could storm at any minute. After the game a weird ray of light came through the thick clouds. It was definitely Dennis looking down on us," Chapman said, with a smile on her face.

As an elementary education major, Chapman wants to teach second through fourth grade. She hopes to be an assistant coach at Avila for the softball team. "I also want to continue playing on recreational teams," she said.

"Jinny has always been a role model to me. She took me under her wing and looked out for me as well as the rest of the team," Tobi Gill, teammate and friend, said.

"Jinny is fun and easy-going. Her laid back personality makes her easy to be around," Jessica McGilton, teammate and friend, said.

Friends feel Chapman's easy-going personality and positive attitude toward life will lead her to many successes. "Jinny will not give up until she succeeds. She will persevere and be very successful," Gill said.



Jinny Chapman.

E. Barnes

Join The Talon staff

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Get yourself published! Reporters are responsible for seeking out stories on campus and getting the inside scoop.

- **Chief Photographer**

Let your photo techniques persevere! The Chief Photographer is responsible for coordinating and completing photo assignments with stories.

- **Arts & Entertainment Editor**

Provide the fun and 4-1-1! The Arts & Entertainment Editor is responsible for overseeing coverage of all news and events in the arts and entertainment industry on and off campus. He or she will collect and edit all arts and entertainment stories from staff writers.

- **Sports Editor**

Get the inside scoop on the court and field! The Sports Editor is responsible for overseeing the coverage of all sporting events and issues. He or she will collect and edit all sports stories from staff writers.

- **Advertising Manager**

Show me the money! The Advertising Manager is in charge of collecting and organizing all advertisements that are gathered.

- **Copy Editor**

Find those needles in a haystack! The Copy Editor is responsible for checking, polishing and correcting all stories. He or she must have good writing and grammar skills and a firm understanding of writing in AP style.

- **Production Manager**

Create a visionary masterpiece! The Layout Editor is responsible for the overall look of The Talon. He or she will work with the editor-in-chief and advisers to determine the layout of each issue. He or she must have a working knowledge of QuarkXPress and Adobe Photoshop.

- **Editor-in-Chief**

Manage the team! The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for managing the editorial staff and ensuring the production process goes according to schedule.



For more information, contact Steve Iliff
Dallavis 807 or at 816-501-3763.

Lady Eagles rally to split doubleheader

Shirley Phillips
Staff Writer

Graceland University's Yellowjackets from Lamoni, Iowa, played the Lady Eagles under gusty wind conditions at Avila on March 27.

The Lady Eagles came into the series with a 13-10 record. They lost the first game 5-0, but rallied early in the second game to win it 4-1.

In the first game, the Eagles were able to hold the Yellowjackets to two runs through the fifth inning. In the sixth inning Graceland got a baserunner on with a hit to right center field. The runner advanced to second base on a sacrifice bunt and then to third base on a wild pitch by Cindy Thompson. Catcher Amanda Brock threw to third with nobody covering and allowed the runner to score on an error.

The Yellowjackets scored another run in the sixth on a dropped fly ball by Eagles center fielder Crystal Mitchell.

In the seventh, Graceland had a runner at second who advanced to third base on another wild pitch by Thompson. She was brought home by a ground ball to right field.

The Lady Eagles left runners on base in every inning, not capitalizing on the scoring opportunities.

Coach Galen Struve felt the conditions were rough. "The wind tore up our field. The dirt blowing around brought a lot of

small rocks to the surface. It was our first home game. I think we were a little overconfident in the first game because we had just come off of a winning weekend of playing Division II teams."

In the second game, the Lady Eagles came on strong with Jinny Chapman hitting a high fly ball to right field to bring in Keri Wien for a 1-0 lead in the first inning.

Rebecca Wywadis led off the second inning with a hard grounder to third base for a base hit. Katie Krawczyk advanced Wywadis to second base with a short grounder to third base. Angela Holland brought Wywadis in on a double. A short fly ball to right field by Mitchell brought in Holland.

Tricia Francy led off the fifth inning for the Eagles with a triple. Emilie Pierson brought her in with a base hit for their fourth run.

The Yellowjackets got their only run in the sixth inning on an error by the center fielder. With the bases loaded, the Lady Eagles stopped the scoring threat on a double play ball back to the pitcher. Melissa Vasko fielded the ball, then threw it to the catcher, getting one out. Brock, threw the ball to first for the final out of the game.



S. Maley

The team huddles up and talks about strategies for the next play.



S. Maley

Cindy Thompson avoids the slide at home.



S. Maley

Freshman Kristin Buschman - pitcher.



S. Maley

Crystal Mitchell lays down a bunt and grounds out to second.



S. Maley

Melissa Vasko delivers a pitch to home.

Eagles go 1-1 in series with Ravens

Eric Findlay
News Editor

Each time the Eagles and Benedictine Ravens meet, fans can count on an intense ballgame like the recent doubleheader. The Eagles split the series with a 3-2 victory and 9-3 loss.

Eagle pitcher Shane McIntire cruised through the first inning. In the second, Ravens left fielder Gabriel DeGarcia smacked a double into left centerfield. He would later score on a throwing error by Eagle catcher Joe Palmer to take the lead 1-0.

The Ravens would extend their lead in the third with a leadoff walk to second baseman J.J. Burress. He stole second and scored on a throwing error by Eagle third baseman Caleb Allen. Marty Campbell of the Ravens, who reached on that throwing error, would later score on a single up the middle by DeGracia.

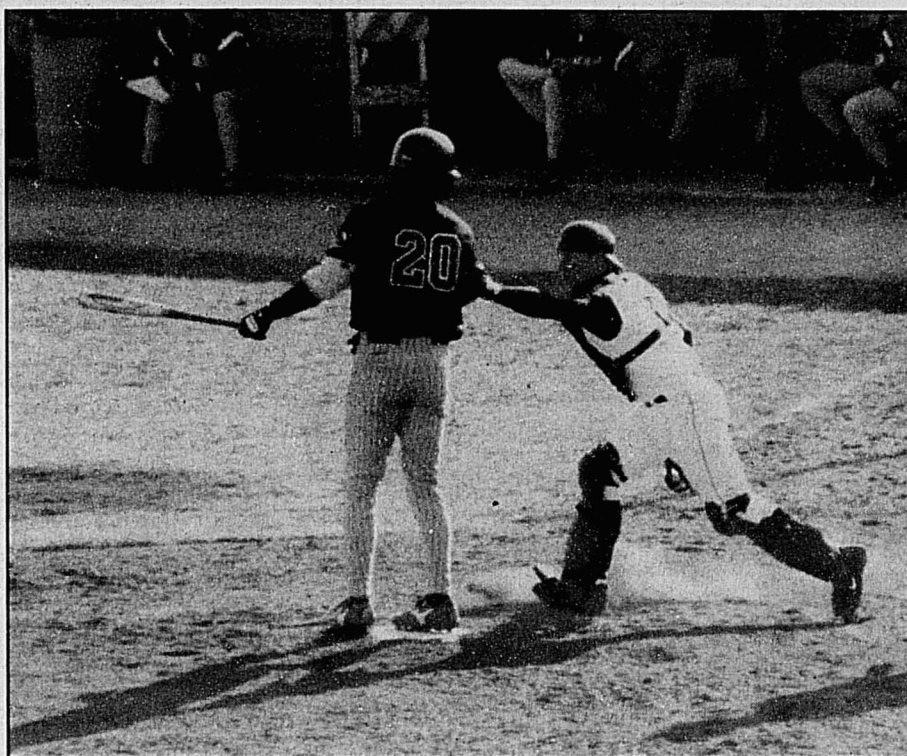
The Eagles answered back with a run of their own in the bottom half of the third. Centerfielder Nick Zicarelli smoked a single into right field and advanced to second on a grounder to third. Shortstop Nick Bjork drove him in by hammering a fastball to right, cutting the lead to 3-1.

Both teams mustered little to no offense until the bottom of the sixth. Allen led off the inning with a double into right center and would later score on a single by first baseman Mike Beckett.

In the bottom of the seventh, the Eagles mounted a comeback on the Ravens All-American closer, Jeremiah Barnes. Eagle right fielder Chris Brown led off the seventh with a single to right. Zicarelli bunted him to second and second baseman Shaun Szot moved him over to third with a grounder to second.

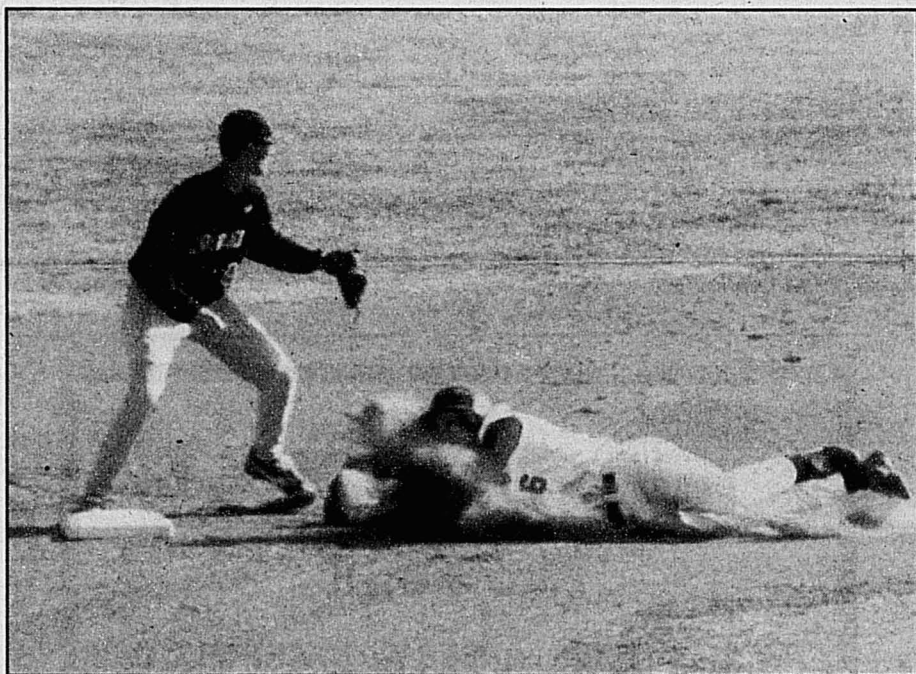
Allen stepped to the plate with the winning run standing at third. Barnes started him off with a fastball catching the outside corner. The next pitch was off the plate, running the count to 1-1. Barnes then dealt a hard splitter to Allen who popped up to the second baseman.

The Eagles stand at 11-23 overall with a 4-6 record in the conference. However, there are 10 conference games remaining on the schedule, which gives the team a chance to rebound from this start and make the conference tournament.



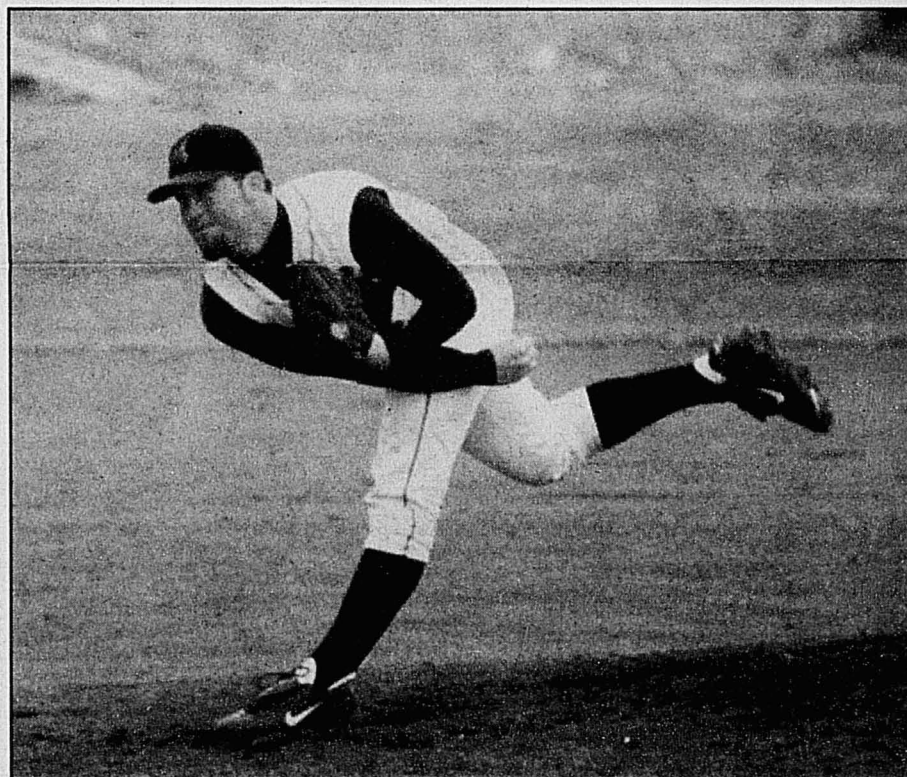
K. Guber

Joe Palmer tags out the runner after the third strike call.



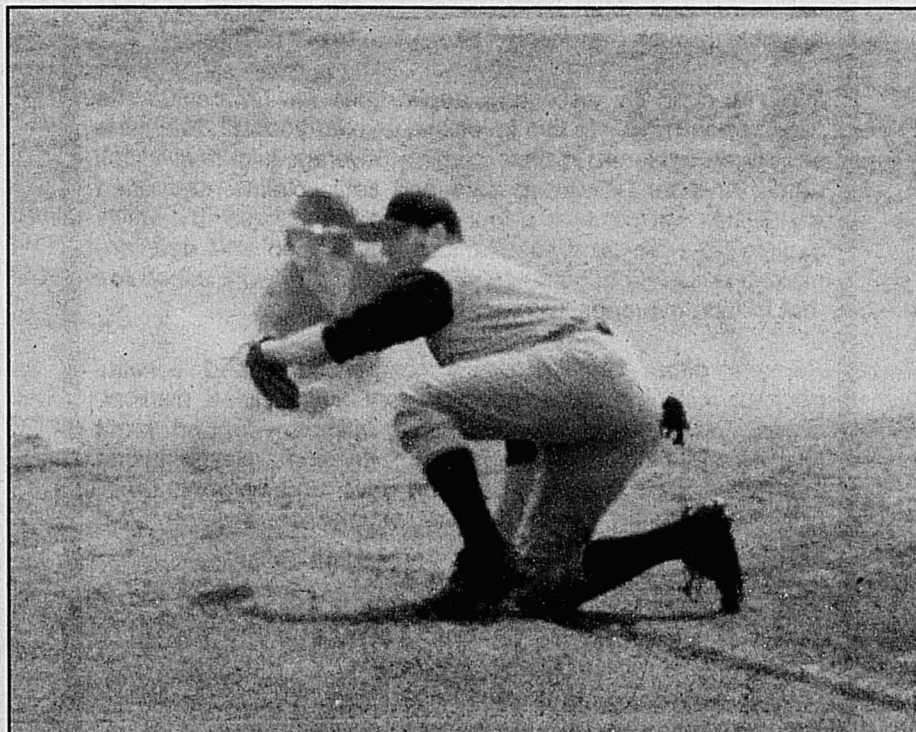
K. Guber

Caleb Allen slides into second.



K. Guber

Justin Thurman delivers a pitch.



K. Guber

Shaun Szot slides into first avoiding the tag out.



K. Guber

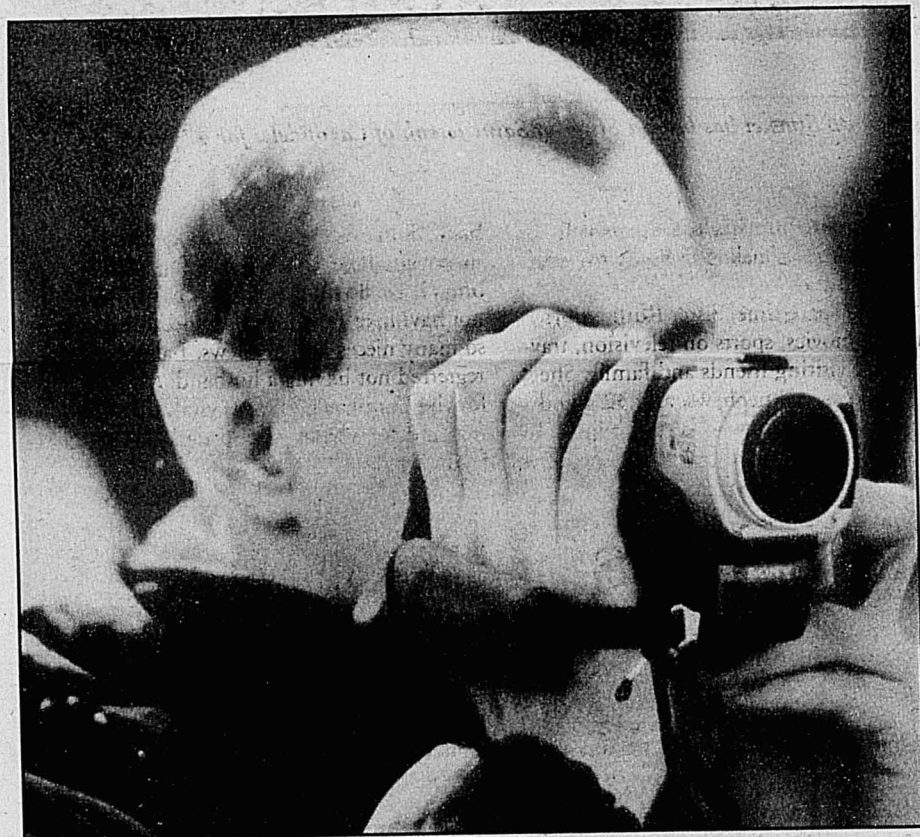
Steve Prewitt gets underneath the ball in left field for the out.

Teaching filmmaking fundamentals

Photos courtesy of Ben Meade



Senior Megan Bridge teaches Hungarian students film editing. Avila students traveled to Hungary with professor Ben Meade for two weeks over spring break.



A Hungarian student learns to shoot film. The students provided cameras, laptop computers, and editing software that was used in daily classes.



Senior Kara Anderson works with students on editing footage. The group taught 15 students fundamentals and techniques of filmmaking.



Melissa Fleming, Kara Anderson, Avila alum Derek Kilgore, and Megan Bridge take a break from teaching.



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EOE

A lifelong habit

Sara Maley
Features Editor

Poverty, chastity, and obedience: three vows taken by women upon entering the convent. However, times have changed and those women who have chosen to dedicate their lives to God are becoming more modern in their ways, while still maintaining their religious lifestyle.

Sister Ruth Stuckel, who entered the convent on Sept. 15, 1954, knew from a very early age that she wanted to be a nun. "I knew in sixth grade that I wanted to be a Sister of St. Joseph," Sister Ruth said. "I was taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph in grade school and I just knew that's how I wanted to live my life."

Sister Ruth grew up in St. Louis, Mo. Her Irish-Catholic family supported her decision to become a nun from the moment she told them. "I didn't tell my parents that I wanted to become a nun until early in my senior year of high school. I had a scholarship to Fontbonne College and had to tell them if I wanted it or not. I decided not to take it."

Though convinced that a religious life was her calling, Sister Ruth led a life very similar to those of teenage girls today by being active in sports, which was uncommon for girls at that time. She even played semi-professional basketball and softball before entering the convent. "I played softball for Kutis Undertakers from 1949-1954. I was their catcher for five years. My last year, we won our four-state regional tournament and then went to play at the national tournament in Orange, Calif. We kept winning and winning, so I had to fly home on Sept. 12 so that I could enter the convent on Sept. 15," she said. Sister Ruth's athletics earned her many trophies, includ-

ing the outstanding player trophy three years in a row.

Sister Ruth said that she was never interested in the things that other girls her age were interested in, such as make-up and clothes, but did have a boyfriend for two years. "I was interested in being attractive but I didn't put much effort into it. I thought it was better to be kind and gentle. My older sister would buy my clothes because I didn't feel confident in that area," she said. "Things were a lot different in those days. People went out in a crowd and double-dated a lot. He knew from the very beginning that I wanted to be a nun, so there wasn't any pressure."

After taking her vows, Sister Ruth taught elementary school in St. Louis for seven years. She then went on to receive her master's degree in philosophy from Fordham University, in New York. "At that time, women were just being allowed to attend college during the school year and not very many went into philosophy. I was in a room with 45 men and three women," Sister Ruth said.

In 1966, Sister Ruth came to Kansas City to teach philosophy and other religious classes at Avila College. Unlike other nuns on campus, Sister Ruth chooses not to wear the habit and veil symbolic of the sisterhood. Instead, she wears a simple gold band with an engraved cross on her left ring finger. "I wear the ring to show that I'm dedicated to Christ. It's the same as a wedding ring and shows that I am committed to Christ," Sister Ruth said. "To people who are not Catholic or have had bad experiences with Catholics, the habit makes nuns unapproachable. Not wearing it



E. Barnes

Sister Ruth Stuckel has been a Sister of Saint Joseph of Carondelet for 47 years.

makes us more human. It is a personal choice each sister makes. I choose to wear the ring instead."

In her spare time, Sister Ruth enjoys watching movies, sports on television, traveling, and visiting friends and family. She has 15 nieces and nephews, and 32 grand nieces and nephews, who keep her busy. To Sister Ruth, these are the children she never

had. "Some sisters have a strong desire to marry and have children of their own, and often leave because of it. I haven't missed not having my own children because I have so many nieces and nephews. I also never regretted not having a husband. My love for the Lord has been very vital. It's a calling, and for whatever reason, it's fit me perfectly."

Spring into fashion – for less

Diane Euston
Staff Writer

The sun shines down and the spring breeze blows on the Avila campus. The weather has improved and short-sleeved weather has finally arrived.

Nicole opens her dorm closet and then closes it. She picks up a skirt she bought last season, rolls her eyes and throws it to the corner of her room. She tosses her sweaters and coats into a box to pack away. She swears she has nothing cute to wear and comes to the conclusion that it is time for spring shopping.

She opens her wallet and pulls out \$30. "What can I buy with this?" she asks herself.

Stretching a small amount of money is a common practice for college students, but many find that buying new spring clothes is a mandatory practice. "It's really scary how the price of clothing adds up," senior Jimmy Vogel said.

How can you spend a small amount of money and still catch the trends for this spring? Kansas City has some stores that harbor more bang for your buck. Gordman's, Target, and even online sources can help you create an attractive outfit for half the cost.

"I want to look good, but I'm really only willing to spend \$15 for a shirt," said junior Adrienne Cook.

Clothing styles for women that have proven their popularity are items such as the peasant blouse. The peasant blouse has been updated from their late 1960s style but still holds its simplicity. "Express has a really cute peasant blouse in white, but it's

over \$30," sophomore Nicole Sowders said. The Gap also has a peasant shirt for \$28.

Do not splurge just yet. In the heart of the juniors department at Target, there is a ruffled peasant blouse by Mossimo for \$14.99, and it comes in black and white. "I'm willing to spend less on clothes as long

as it doesn't look cheap," Sowders said.

The 1980s jean miniskirt has come back from the dead as well. Do not worry, the Cindi Lauper ruffles and splotchy stonewash did not come with the new miniskirt. A hemmed "I made a jean skirt out of a pair of old jeans look" has hit the spring style scene. Mossimo at Target has a denim miniskirt for \$17.99 that looks similar to the skirt sold on sale at The Gap for \$28. Accompany your new miniskirt with a

chunky belt. Assorted styles and colors can be found at Gordman's for as low as \$11.99.

Believe it or not ladies, men really do want to stay in style. "I try to stay hip with the times, but it has to be affordable," Vogel said.

standard T-shirt and jeans works for me," Vogel said.

All men, even the type that could care less about style, need utility ribbed T-shirts in several colors. They are casual enough to wear anywhere from a date to attending class but still in style. Target and Kohls have these shirts starting at \$7.99, as compared to a similar shirt at Banana Republic for \$19.50 – on sale.

Many people only shop for name-brand clothing. "I'm always looking for a way to cut down on my spending, but I always tend to shop at stores like The Limited," senior Elena Derikava said.

Online resources can be of some help. Stores like The Gap have great sales listed online in an organized fashion. When you join the Gap.com mailing list, you will receive printout coupons once in a while for 20% off everything online and in the store. Other specialty stores like Payless Shoe Source have \$2 off coupons to print off online.

If the trend is hot enough, stores like Target and Wal-Mart will have a generic version at half the cost. Staying in style can be affordable this spring. Just remember to shop around and brand-name clothing may not always be the answer to style.

Men do not have to be left behind when it comes to spring style. Updated striped polo shirts from the 1970s and '80s have flown back into the style scene. Striped polo shirts in assorted colors can be found in many stores throughout the city. The Gap has some polo shirts starting at \$29.50. Trim down your tight budget by picking up a polo in the men's department at Target for \$14.99.

"I'm a mix and match kind of guy. The

"I'm always looking for a way to cut down on my spending, but I always tend to shop at stores like The Limited"

Students plagued by invisible disabilities

Christy Smigin
Staff Writer

Each day sophomore Matt Schmidt drives, he knows it could be his last chance to get behind the wheel for several days. Every morning sophomore Meghan Hronek wakes up thanking God she is not in the hospital. These two students, though very different, have one thing in common. Both are disabled. However, to look at them one would never believe it. Their disabilities are invisible, but very real to them. Each has their own way of coping with their disabilities and how they live their daily lives.

Schmidt was diagnosed 18 months ago with transient tic disorder.

"It's basically involuntary muscle spasms," Schmidt said.

According to several students, they select a seat based on the appeal of the subject they are learning or where they can learn better. Schmidt is different. He has decided because of his disorder, whenever possible, he sits farther away from other students in the class.

"I don't want to hit anyone in case I have an attack in the middle of class and hit someone," Schmidt said.

One minute in class, Schmidt was taking notes and doing fine. The next minute

he looked down at his notes. He found a huge, black, snake-like marking across his paper. This was just a mild attack. His second attack was much worse.

"I could not look at any flashing lights for several days; something affected the way I could see after my second attack."

Schmidt takes his own notes but others who also have invisible disabilities, like Hronek, diagnosed with mastocytosis a year ago, opt for note-takers.

"I take my own notes, but I also have my note-takers' notes," Hronek said.

Comparing the two types of notes, she can easily reproduce her classes and piece together what happened.

When trying to explain her disabilities, "I just tell people I'm allergic to life. That simplifies things dramatically," Hronek said with a smile. Mastocytosis is a collection of mast cells in the skin and organs that interferes with their normal function; it results in the person having severe allergic reactions.

She uses medicines to help ease some of the pain associated with her disabilities.

"I've got enough medicine to provide for a third-world country," Hronek said. Looking into her bag, it contains at least 20

medications. She has all of the classifications of disability except physical.

"There are three major types of [invisible] disabilities," said Sue Franklin, coordinator of college skills, "emotional, psychological, and learning."

The Student Resource Center, located in lower Blasco Hall, tries to help people in any way it can. It offers tutoring, counseling, and many other services. These services cost "absolutely nothing," Franklin said.

"Students tend to think that these services are going to call them out of the room and they'll have to go to a special room by themselves," Franklin said. "By the time they finally ask for help it's too late: We want them to feel comfortable and learn beside their fellow students."

If a student needs an interpreter because he or she is unable to hear, the interpreter goes to classes with him or her. A different scenario is a student cannot spell correctly, no matter how much practice he or she does. If that is the case, the student may bring an electronic Franklin Dictionary with him or her to class or a laptop computer with spell check on it to take his or her tests. These are just a few of the special services the Student Resource

Center has done and continues to do to help students with disabilities.

"Don't be ashamed if you need help. We keep everything very confidential and behind locked cabinets," Franklin said. "Only two people have keys to these cabinets. Three if we have to."

Schmidt may not use these services, but only because "people take notes differently. I may take a lot of notes and they may take a little," or vice-versa.

Hronek benefits from these services. "The note-takers are especially helpful if I have to be gone for several days at a time for treatments in Oklahoma City or some place else."

According to Schmidt people were very nice to him even after they learned he had transient tic disorder.

"They were very cool with it," Schmidt said.

Hronek agrees with Schmidt.

"Most people don't know what mastocytosis is, so they're generally curious and are very easy going with it and me."

By the time this story went to print, Hronek was admitted to the hospital, and Schmidt is still driving.

Robbed in paradise

Ben Chai
Staff Writer

"Stick 'em up," a Cancun police officer said to senior Jared Bryant. Nervously, Bryant raised his arms as the police officer approached. The officer asked, "Do you have any drugs?"

"No," Bryant said, staring at the gun protruding from the officer's holster. He showed the police officer his ID and froze with fear. Scared and confused, He trembled as the officer scrounged through his pockets. The officer saw Bryant had \$300 in his wallet, and took it. Next, the officer violently swiped the hat off of his head. Bryant was then instructed to give the officers his backpack, and even the shirt off his back.

Police in Cancun, Mexico, allegedly robbed two out of five Avila students during their spring break vacation.

The robberies occurred on two separate occasions. Bryant said the robbery was unexpected. "I was walking down the road and they pulled over in their car," Bryant said. "They said they were searching for drugs and asked me to empty my pockets. I showed them my ID, one of them saw I

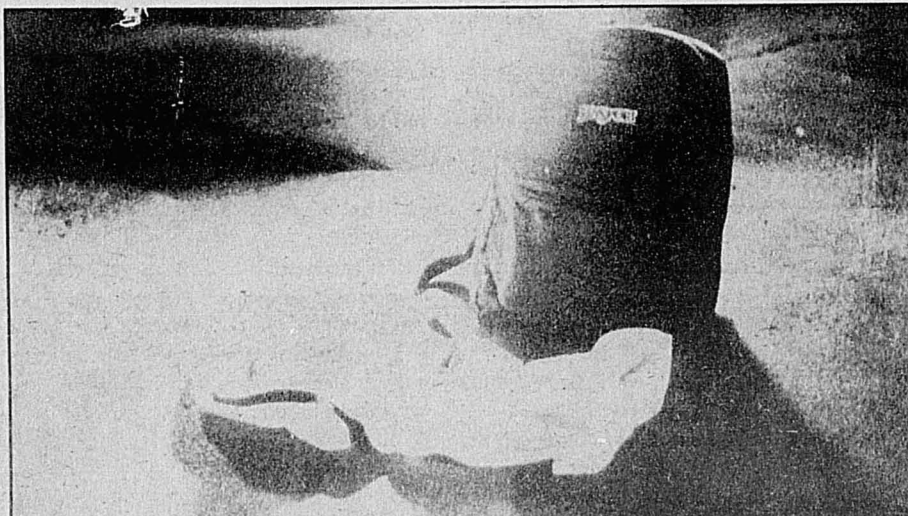
had money and took it. They also took my shirt, hat, and backpack."

Bryant said he knew they were cops because they were wearing a uniform, hat, and carried a gun. "There was no reason," Bryant said. "They were just crooked cops."

The second victim of a robbery was senior Tyler Barr. Barr was on the beach enjoying the night air when, "they came out of nowhere," Barr said. "They said they were searching me for drugs, but I knew better. I kept thinking about what happened to Jared. They looked for money and couldn't find any so they took my shoes and left."

Bryant and Barr both feel they were targeted because they looked like spring breakers. "I definitely feel that our appearance made us look like tourists," Barr said. "They knew exactly what they were doing."

The incident left other students on the trip feeling anxious and angry. "It made me lose any trust I had in the Cancun police," senior Andrew Woodruff said. "Those two incidents ruined our vacation."



E. Barnes

Two Avila students claim they were robbed by Cancun Police while on spring break in Mexico.



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EOE

Avila professor in political arena

Ryan Jackson
Sports Editor

This August Derek Moorhead will be running in the Missouri State Representative primary election as a Republican candidate. He will challenge in the 45th District, which includes the western side of Grandview and parts of southern Kansas City.

This is not your ordinary candidate. Moorhead graduated from Avila in 1992 with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science.

Moorhead then went to the University of Missouri-Kansas City to get his law degree in 1996. He is now in his sixth year teaching Constitutional Law and American Justice Systems for Avila.

He has wanted to run for the State Representative spot for the past two years. As a State Representative for the 45th district, Moorhead wants to accomplish a lot and has several issues that he thinks are important to address. "I would like to be more responsive to the citizens' needs and

do more for the economy. Education and transportation are the main issues that I think are important as well," Moorhead said.

Moorhead said his 4-year-old daughter inspired him to get into the political arena. "I will get to see the laws that I pass today that will make her life a little better in the future," he said.

Moorhead's father was on the city council in Raymore in the early '70s, so growing up he got to see what his father did. "The laws that he passed when I was little affect me today, and I want to have that kind of impact on my daughter's life when she is grown up," Moorhead said.

He learned a lot while attending Avila that has stayed with him to this day. "I developed a good friend base when I went here and was able to use Avila as a stepping stone in my career. I got my first full-time job while I was still going to school here so it was definitely a stepping stone," he said.

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Attention complainers

Ivori Johnson
Opinion Editor

Over the three years of attending Avila I have noticed an increased number of students that just complain. I feel it is time to stand up and talk these complainers down.

Students find numerous issues to talk about. The top two complaints on campus are: there's nothing to do on campus, and the cafeteria food tastes lousy. That may be the case, but I have asked these complainers, "What have you done personally to change it?" Their answers were, "nothing," because the complainer just wants to complain.

They fail to realize that there are many ways to approach these issues. Concerning the cafeteria, the complainers can simply fill out survey forms or come to the food service meetings that are open to the public.

If the lack of activities on campus is the issue, then they can form groups that will organize different ways to change things on campus. They can work with different organizations to raise more money to support more and interesting activities, or

voice their opinion and ideas in Avila's media (channel 7 and *The Talon*). It's easy to get in opinion letter printed from students, no matter what major, but it's a shame that very few students take the initiative.

The complainer should first attend events that Avila sponsors and try to make the best of them. If that proves unsatisfactory, then the first step to get things changed is to get past the complaints and work toward a solution. I challenge all Avila complainers to get off their rears and start working on ways to work for the campus, instead of whining about how the campus is not working for you.

Campus talk

Compiled by
Ivori Johnson
Opinion Editor

What are your complaints?



Annie Walter - Music major
"Paying so much for the senior graduation package."



Jacob Blackman - Undeclared
"Freshman seminar should be pass or fail only."



Lauren Chlodo - English major
"There's too much tolerance towards immaturity in the dorms."



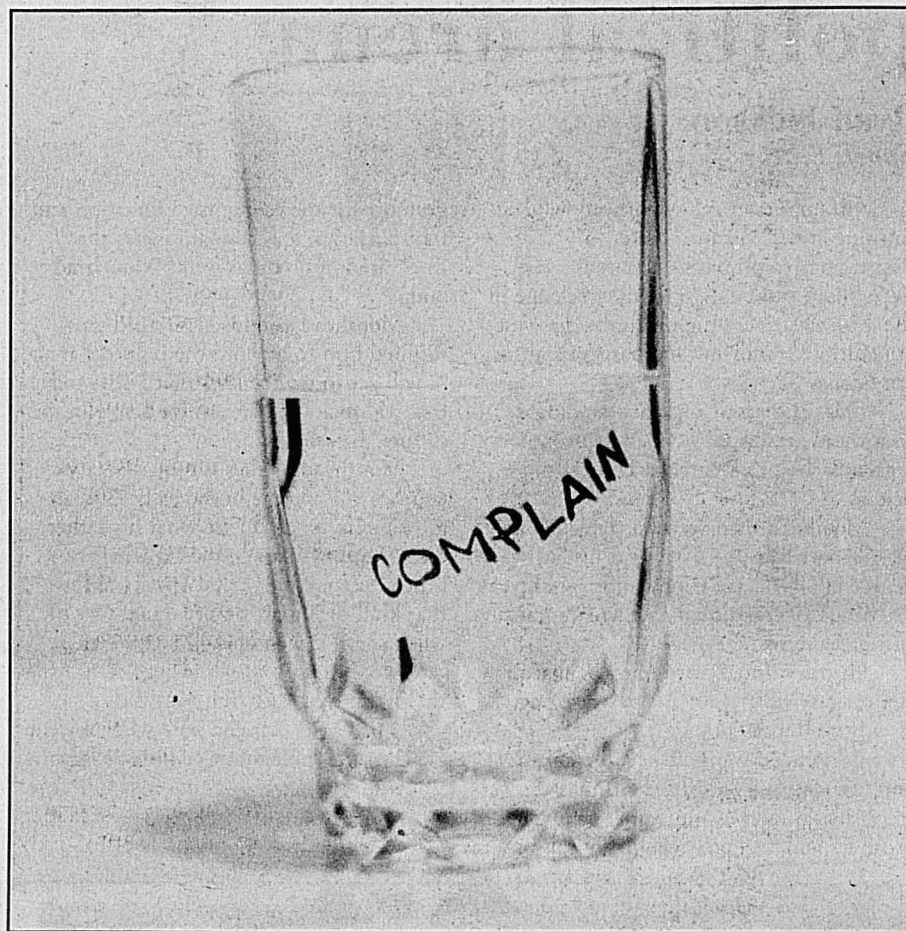
Karen Peltzer - Psychology major
"The landscaping around Avila is dull and ugly"



Megan Moon - Psychology major
"The lack of courtesy with other students."



Crystal Gardner - Political Science major
"Tired of people complaining about everything."



E. Barnes

Look at this glass as half full instead of half empty.

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